

Application No. 08/873,979
Amendment
April 12, 2006

REMARKS

Status of Application:

In the Office Action mailed on April 4, 2005, claims 1, 2, 6, 9, 10, 14, 17,-20, 24, 27, 28, 32 and 35-51 were rejected over various cited references, and claims 1, 2 and 44 were objected to for various informalities.

Applicants filed a Notice of Appeal on September 2, 2005. An amendment was submitted together with a Request for Continuing Examination (RCE) and a three-month extension of time on January 30, 2006. On February 13, 2006, a notice of non-compliant amendment was mailed, noting that claims 25 and 26 were not present in the claim listing. Canceled claims 25 and 26 have been added to the claim listing. On April 5, 2006, a second notice of non-compliant amendment was mailed, noting that claims 52-74 were not present in the claim listing. Canceled claims 52-74 have been added to the claim listing.

The undersigned has been authorized by Richard A. Negin, Reg. No. 28,649, an attorney of record in the subject application, to prepare and file this Amendment on behalf of the Assignee. Correspondence should continue to be directed to Chief Patent Counsel, Engelhard Corporation, 101 Wood Avenue, P.O. Box 770, Iselin, NJ, 08830-0770.

Reconsideration of the above-referenced patent application in view of the foregoing amendment is respectfully requested. If any other fees are due, however, the USPTO is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-3329.

Dated: April 12, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By: SSS

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